

Live In Torrance

Torrance Herald

Buy In Torrance

Twelfth Year—No. 46

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Man Dies of Burns as Needled Whiskey Starts Fire

APPROVE L. B. HOLLYWOOD BUS LINE

Will Start Work Soon on \$110,000 High School Buildings Here

WILL OPEN SERVICE SOON

Side Transit Company Gets Commission Okay on Permit

THROUGH TORRANCE Chamber's Work Ends in Success as Service Approved

The schedule of Western ave. Long Beach busses, which start running Saturday, as affects Torrance, will be as follows:

Northbound busses will leave Torrance for Manchester avenue at 6:49 a. m., 9:24 a. m., 1:04 p. m., 4:33 p. m., 11:33 p. m.

Southbound busses for Long Beach will leave Torrance at 6:49 a. m., 10:12 a. m., 1:04 p. m., 4:33 p. m., 12:20 p. m.

Buses from Torrance to other points will be as follows: Santa Ana, 10 cents, 16 cents; Los Angeles, 15 cents; Long Beach, 20 cents; Redondo Beach, 25 cents; Manhattan Beach, 30 cents; Manhattan Beach, 35 cents; Manhattan Beach, 40 cents.

Service between Long Beach and Torrance, via Torrance and Redondo Beach, will be started in two weeks.

Several months delay the commission last week notified Fred Rife of the Side Transit Company of the fact that the company's franchise for this service had been approved.

Mr. Rife said that service will start within two weeks, with trips each way every day. As the schedule of this service will be published in the Herald.

The route traversed by the busses will be from the Long Beach terminal north to Willow street, west on Willow to Truck street, north on Truck boulevard to Carson street, west on Carson to Cabrillo avenue, Torrance, and on Cabrillo to Border avenue, Long Beach, and thence to Manchester avenue.

Permit for the service did include the right to run busses to Manchester. At this point the commission will be made with the Los Angeles Motor Bus Company to run the service.

Mr. Rife said that a request for permit to extend service without charge to Hollywood will be made by the commission without delay.

Approval of the request requires support from many Chamber of Commerce in the south.

The Torrance chamber took lead in supporting the commission's request, and induced other chambers to co-operate.

ALL THE BARBER SAYS

HERE'S HOW TO SPEND A CHEAP VACATION: DROP A NICKEL IN A TELEPHONE SLOT AND WAIT

This Texas Sheriff Wouldn't Take 'No' For an Answer, and He Sure Got His Man

Working for more than a year on a "cold" murder trail, Sheriff T. A. Binford of Houston, Tex., has found his man.

The story of how Binford built up a trail from the flimsiest of clues—an old shoe—rivals the tales of Sherlock Holmes' adventures.

Back in the closing months of 1924 George P. Massey, captain of a small launch plying the gulf coast, was arrested under the prohibition laws and his boat was seized by federal authorities. He was freed on bond, and disappeared.

A short time later the body of a gunshot victim was found in a field near Houston. It had lain in the field for nearly two weeks, and was hardly recognizable. However, Mrs. Massey, wife of the launch skipper, identified the body as that of her husband.

George P. Massey the body was buried, and Houston seemed satisfied. But "T" Binford wasn't. He went to work.

Binford's first step was to take the serial number of one of the victim's shoes. He learned from the manufacturer of the shoes that the pair had been sold to a merchant at Luling, a Texas oil town. Binford wrote to the merchant, but received no reply.

A woman at Groesbeck, Tex., had read in the papers of the finding of the body. She wrote to Binford that the man might be Louis A. Ridenour, an oil field worker. Ridenour had left Groesbeck for Houston in company with another man shortly before the finding of



SHERIFF T. A. BINFORD

of the slain man's auto. Acting on a "hunch" that the slayer might be traveling under the name of the man he killed, the sheriff went through every available record hunting for that name.

At last he found it. A man under the name of Ridenour had enlisted in the United States navy. He was aboard the U. S. destroyer Robert Smith, off the California coast.

But finding a man in the navy and getting him out are two different things. There still was trouble ahead for Binford.

The sheriff wired navy officials. The man, Charles A. Hoffman, was placed in the brig and later transferred to the U. S. cutter Altair in San Diego Bay. When Binford went to California to get him navy officials refused to transfer Hoffman to the sheriff's custody unless Gov. Miriam Ferguson would guarantee Hoffman's return fare to California in event of an acquittal.

His Own Guarantee The governor had no funds for that purpose. But Binford acted promptly. The sheriff wired the governor a personal guarantee to pay the return fare if Hoffman should be acquitted. Then "Ma" Ferguson wired her guarantee to the navy and Binford took his prisoner.

The sheriff sprang the real surprise when, on his return to Houston with Hoffman, he displayed a confession in which Hoffman admitted the slaying. Hoffman said both had been drinking and that he shot in self-defense after Ridenour had attacked him.

Trail Warms Up New trail was beginning to warm up. Binford got the number

Stage All Set for Big Torrance Pageant

The stage is all set today for the pageant in which pupils of the elementary school will depict the history of Torrance tonight and Friday night.

Tonight's program is for co-operating organizations, and admission will be by ticket. The public is invited to Friday night's program, at which time the elementary school building and the auditorium will be officially dedicated.

The following organizations will answer the roll called by Assistant Superintendent Vierling Kersey: Parent-Teacher Association, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, Women's Club, Chamber of Commerce, High School Student Body, American Legion.

The teachers of the school wish to thank the following for their suggestions and assistance in preparing for the pageant: Chamber of Commerce, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, Mrs. Isabel Henderson, The Torrance Herald.

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Trustees Engage Bartlett in Role of City Inspector

Owing to the increased amount of building now going on in Torrance the Board of Trustees Tuesday night voted to appoint a plumbing and electrical inspector at a salary of \$50 a month.

A. H. Bartlett was appointed to the position. Mr. Bartlett has been doing this inspection work for four years, although such work is not included in the duties of a city clerk as set forth by state law.

The trustees also voted an increase in the pay of L. O. Stevens, deputy city clerk. He will henceforth receive \$155 a month instead of \$150.

Fontana Man Buys Garner Apartments

W. E. Newton of Fontana has purchased the apartments of J. C. Garner at Amapola avenue and Redondo boulevard. The property includes four flats and a bungalow.

Mr. and Mrs. Newton and son have moved to Torrance. Mr. Garner will leave for Fontana to manage an orange grove.

High Grid Squad To Be Guests of Local Kiwanians

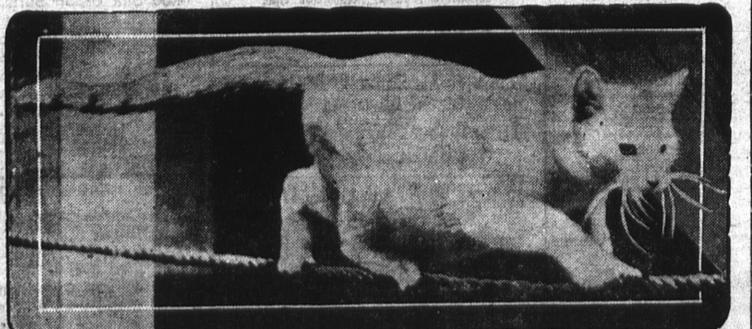
The Torrance High School squad and Coach Wood will be honored guests at the Kiwanis Club luncheon Friday noon at the Women's Clubhouse. Coach Bill Spaulding of the Southern Branch will speak.

Brady Wolfe will give a craft talk. Mrs. Russell Budge will favor with vocal selections. Clayton Hall, superintendent of the George F. Getty Oil Company, is in charge of the program.

RECORDER COLLECTS \$688

Fines collected by the Recorder's Court of the city of Torrance during October aggregated \$688, City Recorder Charles Rippey reported to the Board of Trustees Tuesday night.

Risking Nine Lives on a Strand of Rope



This is Mr. Cat—you know, Tom. He is the champion feline tight-rope walker of the world, and shows his skill in Kansas City, Mo. His tail is his balancer.

WING, GYM GOING UP SHORTLY

Athletic Building and Addition to High School on Program

GYM TO SEAT HUNDREDS Construction To Begin Within Month on Fine Big Edifices

Work on a new \$45,000 stucco gymnasium for Torrance High School and a \$65,000 two-story addition to the high school building will be started within 30 days by the Board of Education. Permits for the work have been taken out at the city hall.

The addition to the high school will be in the form of a new wing extending west from the main building. The gymnasium will seat several hundred spectators.

Plans for the two buildings were published in a recent issue of The Herald.

With these two buildings scheduled to start shortly, permits for November in Torrance will be large.

George Dimolas is erecting two houses, one at 1905 and one at 1909 Cabrillo avenue. Each will cost \$3000.

Torrance Welch is building an addition to a house at 261-A El Dorado avenue at a cost of \$500. Other recent building permits are as follows: A. Jaunse, 1468 Amapola avenue, garage, \$250; George Proctor, 1875 Gramercy avenue, garage, \$250; Salm Manufacturing Company, 1807 Artisan avenue, bins, \$150.

Sunrise Service For Young People Thanksgiving Day

The Christian Endeavor Society of Central Evangelical Church will act as host to the young people of the various young people's Christian organizations on Thanksgiving morning. There will be a Thanksgiving service at 8:30. Dr. C. P. Shilder will address the young people. There will be a lively song service led by a good orchestra. There will be good fellowship. There will be refreshments afterward. All young people are invited.

Girl Scouts Here Have 54 Members

With 54 members enrolled, the Girl Scouts organization in Torrance is rapidly becoming a flourishing organization. Meetings are held Wednesday afternoon in the elementary school auditorium at 3 o'clock. Thirty-four are enrolled from the elementary school, and 20 from the high school. Tenderfoot tests will be taken some time this month, it is expected.

PRESIDENTS' CONFAB

A conference of the presidents and chairmen of Section D will be held at Narbonne High School Friday, Nov. 19, from 11 until 3.

A committee representing Harbor City, Lomita, and Narbonne Parent-Teacher Associations and including Mrs. C. F. Roberts, Mrs. Higgs, Mrs. A. E. Aspitte and Mrs. C. H. Meers, is in charge of arrangements for a luncheon to be served the visitors, in the cafeteria.

Sargent Hardware and Pabco Paint Consolidated Lumber Co.—Adv.

Observations

Seattle's Street Cars—Gov. Cox Wasn't Lucky. He Was Wise—Buying and Wages—Metals; Taxes and Initiative

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

THE question has been asked: Who made Seattle's street car problem? The answer is: The politicians who wanted the city to own the lines, and who got the people to buy them on the theory that the city could operate them cheaper than a private company.

While the politicians are responsible for the problem, the people will have to pay the bill for this political experiment, which cost \$15,000,000 to start with, on top of \$3,500,000 lost in taxes since the city owned the lines. Other taxpayers have had to make up this \$3,500,000, besides paying one of the highest street car fares in the United States—cents a ride or three rides for a quarter—instead of 5 cents, as promised by the politicians.

ONE quite often hears the expression, "Bill Jones always was a lucky fellow."

When former Governor Cox of Ohio planned a building for his paper, The Miami News, in Florida, several years ago, he checked over the plans drawn by the architects and said: "This building is going to be built in the tropics. Is the construction such that I can get hurricane insurance on it?"

The architects didn't know. Cox told them to find out. The result was that the building had to have additional bracing at the corners. But the cost of this was only \$5000, and Governor Cox got his hurricane insurance.

After the hurricanes which wrecked so many buildings, the Miami News tower, said to be the highest inhabited structure in the tropical world, came out with only a few broken windows and some water in the basement.

Was Governor Cox any more "lucky" than the owners of other buildings which were completely demolished or badly wrecked by the hurricane? Apparently there was no luck about the fact that his building stood. He simply used good judgment which even his architects failed to show when designing a building for the tropics.

STATISTICS show that the real purchasing power of wages is today the highest the world has ever known.

In the United States, says the Index, there have been three occasions when prices have abruptly doubled—after the War of 1812, the Civil War, and the World War. Following each of the first two conflicts there was a 25-year period when prices declined. In June, 1926, prices stood at 152.3, compared with 100 in 1913.

HOW much scientific metallurgy is responsible for improved conditions in mining is shown by the records of a few big western mines. Utah Copper used to recover 60 percent of the copper in its 1.3 percent ore, handling 40,000 tons daily. The Sullivan mine at Kimberley, B. C., sold a few years ago for \$250,000, had complex ores that, though rich, defied the chemists. A long series of experiments followed, until a flotation process has brought them an 80 percent saving of zinc and 90 percent of lead, and net profits of \$15,000,000, with 100 years' supply of ore yet in sight.

Mining pays almost as large a proportion of its money for wages as farming. It is one of the few industries that in many cases has a wage scale based on profit; a scale that provides for wage advances based on the sale price of metal in addition to a liberal base pay.

Mining is a cash market for labor, for the farm, for the manufacturer, everywhere. It is entitled to the fairest laws possible and the encouragement of everyone who can give it a boost.

RESPONSE to Fire Prevention Week was greater this year than ever before. If the public ever properly awakens to the idea that the damaging losses in life and property caused by fire are largely a matter of individual control, our annual fire loss will show a decrease instead of a constant increase.

The fact that fire losses fall off during Fire Prevention Week proves that when the public has its mind focused on elimination of useless fires good results are always obtained.

If the same enthusiasm went into fire prevention during the whole year, instead of just during Fire Prevention Week, thousands of lives and hundreds of millions of dollars would be saved annually from the fire demon.

THERE is now a record of 20,000 inventions and devices, up to date, in the electrical industry. The electric wire reaches to every point of civilization and carries its day to the most remote fastnesses by the pocket flashlight. The housekeeper has a home electrically lighted, possibly heated or fanned by electric current. She may wash, iron, clean, cook, and sew off the electric wire. Electric refrigeration and housecleaning have become a matter of pressing a labor-saving button.

THE welfare of the world depends upon constructive thought originating in the individual mind, and the dollar is its messenger to a creative end," says Paul Shoup, executive vice-president of the Southern Pacific Company.

"The separation of the dollar—what it represents—from the individual to the mass through taxation, depriving this dollar of the support of this constructive individual thought, seeking achievement or reward, or both, is destructive to the welfare of the world—destructive to that action which would 'make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before.'"

"The dollar diverted by taxation, no longer the possession of individual creative thought, loses its creative character. The dollar is useful only as the mind of man makes it so. The destruction of useful initiative must be necessarily destructive to its useful work."

"The taxes paid in the United States represent an annual contribution of 3 percent upon the value of all the property in this country. We find that our tax contributions, the number of dollars diverted from their normal course for taxation purposes, have been for many years past increasing out of proportion to the growth of the saved wealth of the nation, and out of proportion to the national income."

PROBE OF BLAZE IS ON

Electric Needles Explode Whiskey, Causing \$5000 Loss, Police Say

MAN HORRIBLY BURNED Dallas Whitfield Walks Into Hospital With Flesh Almost Burned Away

Death to one, destruction of two houses valued at \$5000, a rescue of an 80-year-old woman, and the whistling of .45-caliber bullets from the flames were the results of a fire believed to have been started at 2329 West 25th street, Harbor City, Wednesday morning when a can of whiskey exploded while being electrically "needled" for aging.

Dallas Whitfield, 35, alias McGuire, died in the San Pedro General Hospital Wednesday from burns received in the blaze. Police are investigating the affair and seeking to ascertain how Whitfield got to San Pedro.

It is reported that he drove from Harbor City in his car. His body was literally covered with first-degree burns. It is said that Whitfield drove to the Metropole Hotel in San Pedro and requested the innkeeper to call an ambulance. Police are working on the theory that someone else may have driven the man from Harbor City and they are endeavoring to ascertain who these others might be.

Geese cackling on the property gave the first alarm of the fire. Serge Hiram Carpenter of the San Pedro police force rushed to one of the three houses on the lot and rescued a Mrs. Young, 80 years old.

Harbor City firemen and the force from Wilmington answered an alarm and worked to quell the blaze. Two houses on the property were damaged to the extent of \$5000.

Ten gallons of liquor were found in one of the houses—the one which Whitfield had rented Tuesday.

During the blaze a number of .45-caliber bullets whizzed through the air. One barely missed Sgt. Carpenter.

The property was owned by Charles I. Young.

Reports from San Pedro marvel at the display of courage and strength of Whitfield. With his flesh literally eaten away with burns, Whitfield, walked to the stretcher when the ambulance arrived and, reaching the hospital, walked into the building. Attendants were surprised that he was even conscious, so serious were the burns that resulted in his death a short time thereafter.

Local Child Will Give Recital Here

Little Margaret Gerharz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gerharz, residing at 1310 Manuel avenue, is to be presented by the Pokrovsky Institute, incorporated, on the same program with William Wareham, the renowned English tenor, at the Women's Clubhouse Friday evening.

Mr. Wareham has traveled the world over, concertizing on all corners of the earth. He began the life of a concert artist as a boy prodigy. His father, being a prominent musician in England, and in especial favor with the late Queen Victoria, was able to give him a start on the road to fame.

Mr. Wareham has recently come to California, and will be featured by the Pokrovsky Institute in various towns along the coast.

Miss Margaret Gerharz is a young pianist making excellent progress with her studies and, although with the Pokrovsky Institute but a short while, will be presented with a group of older students of that institution. The program is to commence at 8 o'clock promptly.

THE federal oil conservation board has undertaken a survey the result of which will without doubt be of benefit to the oil industry and the nation. The opinions it has expressed are conservative and in favor of (Continued on next to last page)